

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA

CLERK'S OFFICE

NOTICE OF FILING AND HEARING

DOCKET NO. 2011-47-WS

APPLICATION OF CAROLINA WATER SERVICE, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF AN INCREASE IN ITS RATES FOR WATER AND SEWER SERVICES PROVIDED TO ALL OF ITS SERVICE AREAS IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Carolina Water Service, Inc. ("the Company or CWS") has filed an Application with the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("the Commission") for an adjustment of its rates and charges and for modification of certain terms and conditions for the provision of water and sewer service. The Application was filed pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-5-240 and 26 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-512.4.A and 103-712.4.A. CWS provides water and sewer service to the public for compensation in certain areas of South Carolina pursuant to rates approved by the Commission in Docket No. 2006-92-WS.

In its Application, CWS requests that the Commission approve an increase in its monthly water and sewer charges and in its water and sewer account set-up charges and its sewer notification fee. The Company also seeks approval to modify its tariff, pursuant to 26 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-503 and 103-703. More specifically, the Applicant proposes to include in its tariff charges to recover its costs of disconnecting its customers from its facilities in certain circumstances; charges to recover its costs of repair of its water and sewer facilities which have been damaged by tampering; charges to recover its costs of pumping its customer's interceptor tanks; charges for installation of water meters; and modification of certain language clarifying the purpose of existing rates for the benefit of its customers.

A COPY OF THE COMPANY'S CURRENT RATES AND CHARGES AS APPROVED BY COMMISSION ORDER NO. 2008-855 IS AVAILABLE ON THE COMMISSION'S WEBSITE AT www.psc.sc.gov.

THE PROPOSED NEW RATES AND CHARGES ARE SET FORTH BELOW
(The complete rate schedule, including the Company's application, is available from the Company at the address below and on the Commission's website at www.psc.sc.gov.)

WATER

Monthly Charges

Residential

Base Facilities Charge per single family house, condominium, mobile home or apartment unit:

\$19.87 per unit

Commodity charge:

\$ 6.49 per 1,000 gallons or 134 cft

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Commercial

Base Facilities Charge
by meter size:

5/8" meter	\$ 19.87
1"	\$ 51.99
1.5"	\$103.98
2"	\$166.36
3"	\$311.93
4"	\$519.89

Commodity Charge: **\$ 6.49 per 1,000 gallons or 134 cft**

Charges for Water Distribution Only

Where water is purchased from a government body or agency or other entity for distribution and resale by the Company, the following rates apply:

Residential

Base Facilities Charge per single family
House, condominium, mobile home or
Apartment unit:

\$ 19.87 per unit

Commodity charge: **\$ 3.71 per 1,000 gallons or 134 cft**

Commercial

Base Facilities Charge
by meter size:

5/8"	\$ 19.87
1"	\$ 51.99
1.5"	\$103.98
2"	\$166.36
3"	\$311.93
4"	\$519.89

Commodity charge: **\$ 3.71 per 1,000 gallons or 134 cft**

Water Meter

5/8 inches x 3/4 inches meter

\$100

All meters 5/8 inches x 3/4 inches shall meet the Utility's standards and shall be installed by the developer. A one-time fee of \$100 shall be due upon installation.

For the installation of all other meters, the customer shall be billed for the Utility's actual cost of installation. All such meters shall meet the Utility's standards and be installed by the Utility unless the Utility directs otherwise.

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**Customer Account Charge – for new
customers only**

All Areas \$30.00

SEWER

Monthly Charges

**Residential – charge per single-family
House, condominium, villa, or
Apartment unit:**

\$44.32 per unit

Mobile Homes:

\$31.56 per unit

Commercial:

\$44.32 per SFE*

Commercial customers are those not included in the residential category above and include, but are not limited to, hotels, stores, restaurants, office, industry, etc.

Charge for Sewer Collection Only

When sewage is collected by the Utility and transferred to a government body or agency, or other entity, for treatment, the Utility's rates are as follows:

**Residential – per single-family house,
Condominium, or apartment unit**

\$29.20 per unit

Commercial – per single-family equivalent

\$29.20 per SFE*

**Charge for Wholesale Service (Midlands
Utility)**

\$18.78 per SFE*

Solids Interceptor Tanks

For all customers receiving sewage collection service through an approved solids interceptor tank, the following additional charges shall apply:

A. Pumping Charge

At such time as the Utility determines through its inspection that excessive solids have accumulated in the interceptor tank, the Utility will arrange for pumping the tank and the **actual cost** to the utility of pumping the tank will be billed to the customer; the minimum pumping charge shall be \$150.00. The cost of the Utility's pumping charge will be included as a separate item in the next regular billing to the customer.

B. Pump Repair or Replacement Charge

If a separate pump is required to transport the customer's sewage from solids interceptor tank to the

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Utility's sewage collection system, the Utility will arrange to have this pump repaired or replaced as required and will include the cost of such repair or replacement as a separate item in the next regular billing to the customer and may be paid for over a one year period.

Notification Fee

A fee of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) shall be charged each customer to whom the Utility mails the notice as required by the Commission Rule R. 103-535.1 prior to service being discontinued. This fee assesses a portion of the clerical and mailing costs of such notices to the customers creating the cost.

Customer Account Charge – for new customers only.

All Areas **\$30.00**

A one-time fee to defray the costs of initiating service. This charge will be waived if the customer also takes water service.

Disconnection Charge (applies to water and sewer customers): In addition to any other charges that may be due, in those cases where a customer's service has been disconnected for any reason as set forth in Commission Rule R.103-732.5, and the customer is found to have vacated his premises or the customer has shown his intent to vacate his premises and the imposition of a reconnection charge is not feasible, a disconnection fee in the amount of the Utility's **actual cost** of disconnection shall be due at the time the customer disconnects service.

Tampering Charge (applies to water and sewer charges): In the event the Utility's equipment, water mains, water lines, meters, curb stops, service lines, valves or other facilities have been damaged or tampered with by a customer, the Utility may charge the customer responsible for the damage to the Utility's the **actual cost** to repair its facilities.

A copy of the Company's Application can be obtained from the Commission at the following address: Public Service Commission of South Carolina, Clerk's Office, P. O. Drawer 11649, Columbia, South Carolina 29211. Additionally, Carolina Water Service, Inc.'s Application is available on the Commission's website at www.psc.sc.gov.

In order for testimony and evidence to be received from all interested parties, a public hearing will be held in the Commission's Hearing Room, Synergy Business Park, 101 Executive Center Dr., Columbia, South Carolina on **Wednesday, September 7, 2011 at 10:30 a.m.**

Any person who wishes to participate in this matter, as a party of record with the right of cross-examination should file a Petition to Intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, on or before **May 26, 2011**, and indicate the amount of time required for his presentation. Please include an email address for receipt of future Commission correspondence in the Petition to Intervene. ***Please refer to Docket No. 2011-47-WS.***

Any person who wishes to testify and present evidence at the hearing should notify the Clerk's Office, in writing, at the address below, Charles L. A. Terreni, Esquire, Terreni Law Firm, LLC, 1508 Lady Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201 and Scott Elliott, Esquire, Elliott & Elliott, P.A., 1508 Lady Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201 on or before **May 26, 2011**, and indicate the amount of time required for the presentation. ***Please refer to Docket No. 2011-47-WS.***

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Any person who wishes to request a hearing in his or her county of residence, and does not want to intervene as a party of record in this matter, should notify on or before May 26, 2011, in writing, the Clerk's Office at the address below, Charles L. A. Terreni, Esquire, Terreni Law Firm, LLC, 1508 Lady

Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201 and Scott Elliott, Esquire, Elliott & Elliott, P.A., 1508 Lady Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201. ***Please refer to Docket No. 2011-47-WS.***

Any person who wishes to be notified of any change in the hearing date, but does not wish to present testimony or be a party of record, may do so by notifying the Clerk's Office in writing at the address below on or before **May 26, 2011. *Please refer to Docket No. 2011-47-WS.***

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: Any person who wishes to have his or her comments considered as part of the official record of this proceeding **MUST** present such comments, in person, to the Commission during the hearing.

Persons seeking information about the Commission's Procedures should contact the Commission in Columbia at 803-896-5100.

Public Service Commission of South Carolina
Attn: Clerk's Office
Post Office Drawer 11649
Columbia, SC 29211

4/26/11